mineral wool separately from the size.

18. (Amended) Insulation product according to Claim 15, which has a density of at least 30 kg/m^3, especially at least 50 kg/m^3 and particularly at least 80 kg/m^3.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are active in the present application. The claims are amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter is added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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--3. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1 [or 2], in which the latex is based on an aqueous dispersion or emulsion of a polymer carrying hydrophilic functional groups, especially hydroxyl, carboxyl or ester functional groups.

5. (Amended) Method according to Claim 3 [or 4], in which the latex contains a polymer or copolymer which is of the vinyl type, especially a vinyl acetate homopolymer or copolymer, or of the acrylic type and/or which is derived from a carboxylic acid.

7. (Amended) Method according to [one of Claims 1 to 3] Claim 1, in which the latex is based on an aqueous dispersion or emulsion of particles consisting of a polymer surrounded by a surfactant or by a protective colloid having hydrophilic functional groups, especially one based on polyvinyl alcohol or on cellulose.

9. (Amended) Method according to [any one of Claims 3 to 8] Claim 3, in which a water-repellent agent, such as a silicone or a fluorinated compound, is added to the latex.

10. (Amended) Method according to [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, in which the latex is based on a polymer having a glass transition temperature Tg of less than 80°C and especially of less than 50°C.

11. (Amended) Method according to [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, in which the latex is based on a polymer having a glass transition temperature Tg of greater than -5°C and especially of greater than 0°C.

12. (Amended) Method according to [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, in

which the solids content of the latex introduced is less than 5%, especially about 0.01 to 5%, by weight with respect to the weight of mineral wool.

13. (Amended) Method according to [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, in which the latex is mixed with the size before application to the mineral wool.

14. (Amended) Method according to [any one of Claims 1 to 12] Claim 1, in which the latex is applied to the mineral wool separately from the size.

18. (Amended) Insulation product according to [one of Claims 15 to 17] Claim 15, which has a density of at least 30 kg/m^3, especially at least 50 kg/m^3 and particularly at least 80 kg/m^3.--